

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott  
Joel Jacobs  
Marshall Johnson  
Edward Garvey  
LeRoy Koppendrayer

Chair  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Pau Bunyan Rural  
Telephone Cooperative's** Request for  
Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated  
with the **Cass County** 911 Emergency  
Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: February 22, 2001

DOCKET NO. **P423/ES-01-171**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911  
SYSTEM COSTS

**BACKGROUND**

On October 13, 1981, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Cass County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service.

On November 10, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs U S West Communications incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service System in Cass County.

On September 20, 1989, the Commission approved the actual cost Arvig Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Service System in Cass County.

On November 27, 1991, the Commission approved the actual costs Otter Tail Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Service in Cass County.

On December 9, 1998, the Commission approved the actual costs incurred by IES, LLC for a portion of Automatic Number Identification (ANI) services in Cass County's 911 Emergency Services system.

On August 8, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs incurred by Hutchinson Telephone Company for placing a portion of Automatic Location Identification (ALI) services in Cass County's 911 Emergency Services system.

On August 22, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs incurred by Arrowhead Communications Corporation for placing a portion of ANI in the 911 Emergency Services system in Cass County.

On August 10, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs incurred by Consolidated Telephone Company for placing a portion of ANI in the 911 Emergency Services system in Cass County.

On August 22, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs incurred by Arrowhead Communications Corporation for capital costs of 911 Central Office Equipments to provide tandem based ANI service to the Bena Exchange.

On September 11, 2000, the Commission approved an application by Consolidated Telephone Company to revised their cost certification dated November 12, 1999.

On November 2, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs incurred by Independent Emergency Services, LLC, for installing ALI databases and records for all of the Exchanges in the Cass County 911 Emergency Services system.

### **CURRENT FILING**

Cass County contracted with Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative (the Cooperative) for the installation of Router services for Enhanced 911 Emergency Service with ANI.

On May 13, 1998, the Cooperative installed two interexchange circuits between the Cass Lake, Bena, Outing, Leader, Pillager, Walker, Longwill, Whipholt, Remer, Federal Dam, Bay River, Backus, Pine River, Hackensack and Woman Lake Exchanges to the Turtle River Router. The Cooperative also installed four interexchange circuits between the Walker Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) and the Turtle River Router for Enhanced 911 Service with ANI.

On January 19, 2001, the Cooperative certified actual costs incurred in providing interexchange circuits for Enhanced 911 Service with ANI for all of the exchanges in the 911 Emergency Services system in Cass County.

The Cooperative is now requesting Commission approval of the actual costs of providing ANI services to these Exchanges. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this

section and the governor shall include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911 services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A, reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Cass County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Cass County which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

Policy References:

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1500 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Central Office Modification Costs

**ORDER**

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate pursuant to the Commission's March 21, 2000 Standing Order Designating Filings Requesting Certification of 911 Costs As Filings Subject to Approval Under Minn. Stat. § 216A.03, Subd. 7, Docket No. P-999/CI-99-1723.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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STATE OF MINNESOTA)  
 )SS  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY )

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I \_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2001 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Cass County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P423/ES-01-171.**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

JAMES R BEUTELSPACHER  
STATE 9-1-1 PROJECT MANAGER  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
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MARY KAY FRISCH  
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DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
ROOM 510  
658 CEDAR STREET  
ST. PAUL, MN 55155

Subscribed and sworn to before me,

a notary public, this \_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public